

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

BETTINA MOECKEL, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/706,082 :

FILED: NOVEMBER 13, 2003 :

FOR: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES

WHICH CODE FOR THE RPOB

GENE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.